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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/577,434	05/22/2000	Jason May	2043.016US1	3245
49845 7590 02/25/2008 SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/EBAY P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			EXAMINER KAZIMI, HANI M	
			ART UNIT 3691	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 02/25/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USPTO@SLWIP.COM

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/577,434	Applicant(s) MAY ET AL.	
	Examiner Hani Kazimi	Art Unit 3691	

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/16/02;8/5/02;11/5/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on November 5, 2007. Claims 1-25 are pending. The rejections cited are as stated below:

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed on May 22, 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 USPQ 459, that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or unobviousness.

3. Claims 1-3, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,794,221 Egendorf in view of The Official eBay Guide to Buying, Selling, and Collecting Just About Anything, hereinafter, eBay.

Claims 1-3, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,794,221 Egendorf in view of The Official eBay Guide to Buying, Selling, and Collecting Just About Anything, hereinafter, eBay., as discussed in the final office action mailed on August 15, 2005. Further:

Egendorf fails to disclose the steps of determining that the first participant is qualified to accept the at least one of the plurality of payment instruments, the determination being based on a risk management operation, and determining a risk level of an online payment transaction between the first participant and the second participant using at least feedback information.

eBay disclose the steps of determining that the first participant is qualified to accept the at least one of the plurality of payment instruments, the determination being

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based on a risk management operation (pages 108-109, explains the different payment terms and conditions and the risk involves in using them), and determining a risk level of an online payment transaction between the first participant and the second participant using at least feedback information (pages 31-35, star colors are and indication of the risk level of a transaction which is based on a feedback rating). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify *Egendorf* to include the steps of determining that the first participant is qualified to accept the at least one of the plurality of payment instruments, the determination being based on a risk management operation, and determining a risk level of an online payment transaction between the first participant and the second participant using at least feedback information, because this would provide information related to the participant's reliability and likelihood of prompt payment.

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Egendorf* in view of eBay and further in view of US 6,049,785 Gifford, as discussed in the final office action mailed on August 15, 2005.

5. Claims 5-6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Egendorf* in view of eBay and further in view of US 5,978,780 Watson, as discussed in the final office action mailed on August 15, 2005.

6. Claims 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Egendorf in view of eBay and further in view of Tessler, as discussed in the final office action mailed on August 15, 2005.

7. Claims 13-25 are rejected as discussed in the final office action mailed on August 15, 2005.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed on November 5, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Response to Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been addressed in the above rejections.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hani Kazimi whose telephone number is (571) 272-6745. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

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applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hani M. Kazimi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691